

CUSTOMER NO.: 24498
Serial No.: 10/031,151
Office Action dated: December 26, 2007
Response dated: March 6, 2008

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PATENT
RCA89642

Listing of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for integrating passwords for accessing programming from multiple programming providers, the apparatus comprising:
 - a memory for storing a first password associated with a first programming provider that directly delivers programming to the apparatus via a first transmission media;
 - removable memory storing a second password associated with a second programming provider that directly delivers programming to the apparatus via a second transmission media distinct from the first transmission media;
 - temporary memory temporarily storing said first password during use; and
 - means for replacing, responsive to an insertion of the removable memory, said first password in said temporary storage with said second password to enable said apparatus to allow access to programming from said first and second programming providers,
 - wherein the apparatus is disposed locally with respect to a consumption location of the programming by a user.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the first and second password each comprise a master password.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said first password and second password each further comprises a sub-profile password.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said removable memory is a smart card.
5. (Previously Presented) A method for accessing programming from multiple programming providers in an integrated television system, the method comprising:
 - determining whether an access card is coupled to the integrated television system;

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if said access card is coupled to the integrated television system, processing a first password received from said access card to access programming directly delivered by said multiple programming providers to the integrated television system via different transmission media such that each of the multiple programming providers uses a respective different one of the different transmission media to directly deliver the programming to the integrated television system; and

if said access card is not coupled to the integrated television system, processing a second password to access at least some of the programming delivered to the integrated television system via at least one of the transmission media and precludes access to programming delivered to the integrated television system via at least one other of the transmission media.

6. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein each of the first and second passwords each comprises a master password.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein at least one of the first and second passwords further comprises a sub-profile password.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5 further comprising writing said second password to temporary storage for use when the access card is not coupled to the integrated television system; and
overwriting said second password in temporary storage with said first password when said access card is coupled to the integrated television system.
9. (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising validating said access card before using said first password.
10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:
a first antenna for receiving signals from the first programming provider via the first transmission media; and
a second antenna for receiving signals from the second programming provider via the second transmission media.

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11. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5, further comprising:
receiving signals from a first antenna corresponding to a first of said multiple programming providers; and,
receiving signals from a second antenna corresponding to a second of said multiple programming providers.
12. (Previously Presented) A television apparatus, comprising:
a receiver configurable to directly receive programming from first and second programming providers via a first transmission media and a second transmission media distinct from the first transmission media, respectively;
processing circuits, coupled to the receiver, that process television signals received by the receiver and provide output signals;
an access card interface for receiving an access card;
a controller, coupled to the access card interface, that determines whether the access card is coupled to the access card interface; and
a memory for storing a first password associated with the first programming provider, wherein the controller, upon determining that the access card is not coupled to the access card interface, causes the processing circuits to use the first password to access programming from the first programming provider, and upon determining that the access card is coupled to the access card interface, downloads a second password from the access card and causes the processing circuits to use the second password to access programming from both the first and second programming providers.
13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the first and second passwords each comprise a master password.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the first and second passwords each further comprises a sub-profile password.
15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the access card comprises a smart card.

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16. (Cancelled).

17. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein programming associated with the first programming provider is directly received via a cable connection, and programming associated with the second programming provider is directly received via an over the air transmission.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 12, wherein the receiver receives programming from the first programming provider via a satellite network, and the receiver receives programming from the second programming provider via a terrestrial network.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the first transmission media comprises a satellite network and the second transmission media comprises a terrestrial network.

20. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 5, wherein the first password is a master password associated with a satellite transmission media and the second password is a master password associated with a terrestrial transmission media.